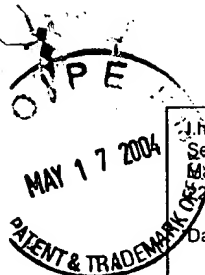


DAC



I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail, in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Petition, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date shown below.
Dated: 5/13/04 Signature: [Signature]
(Grace Yu)

Docket No.: 564462000820
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Dan E. ROBERTSON et al.

RECEIVED

MAY 19 2004

Application No.: 09/903,410

Art Unit: 1652

OFFICE OF PETITIONS

Filed: July 10, 2001

Examiner: R. Prouty

For: ENZYMES HAVING ESTERASE ACTIVITY
AND METHODS OF USE THEREOF

PETITION TO ACCEPT UNINTENTIONALLY DELAYED CLAIM FOR PRIORITY
UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 365(c)

Mail Stop Petition
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

(555) 710-7535

Dear Sir:

Applicants hereby petition for entry of the enclosed Amendment claiming benefit under 35 U.S.C. § 365(c) of International Application No. PCT/US97/02039, filed February 11, 1997 and published as WO 97/30160. The present application is directed to enzymes having esterase activity and methods of use thereof; aspects of this were described in International Application No. PCT/US97/02039. The applications contain at least one inventor in common and the PCT application discloses the invention claimed herein.

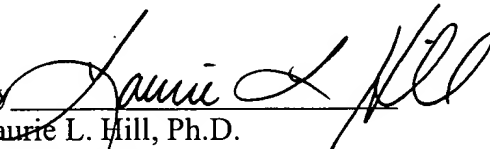
Applicants hereby state that the entire delay between the date the claim for benefit was due under 37 C.F.R. § 1.78(a)(5) and the date of the present amendment was unintentional.

Entry of the Amendment and accordation of benefit are respectfully requested.

In the unlikely event that the transmittal letter is separated from this document and the Patent Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, applicants petition for any required relief including extensions of time and authorize the Assistant Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to **Deposit Account No. 03-1952** referencing docket No. 564462000820.

Dated: May 13, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

By 
Laurie L. Hill, Ph.D.

Registration No.: 51,804

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